2. Amendments to the Claims:

A listing of the entire set of pending claims (including amendments to the claims, if any) is submitted herewith per 37 CFR 1.121. This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring the operation of at least one microcontroller unit ~~(300) that is intended for at least one application and is~~ associated with a system ~~(100)~~, ~~characterized in that~~, the method comprising:

associating at least one monitoring module with the microcontroller unit ~~(300) has at least one monitoring module (10) associated with it,~~;

~~and in that the fact that a~~ resetting of the microcontroller unit ~~(300) has taken place is acknowledged~~; and

acknowledging the resetting to the monitoring module ~~(10) by means of~~ by transmitting at least one confirming signal, wherein the confirming signal is formed by at least one trigger signal or trigger code that differs from the normal operation of the microcontroller unit or is permitted only once by the monitoring module, or both.

2. (Cancelled).

3. (Currently Amended) A method as claimed in claim 1 ~~or 2, characterized in that~~ wherein, in relation to the operation of the microcontroller unit ~~(300)~~, a distinction is made between different reset events and in that these different reset events are acknowledged to the monitoring module ~~(10)~~ by means of different confirming signals.

4. (Currently Amended) A base chip ~~(200), and particularly a system base chip,~~ adapted

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to monitor ~~for monitoring the~~ operation of at least one microcontroller unit ~~(300) that is intended for at least one application, characterized by~~ the base chip comprising:

at least one reset unit ~~(40)~~ connected ~~(42)~~ to the microcontroller unit ~~(300)~~, and adapted to reset ~~for resetting~~ the microcontroller unit ~~(300)~~, and at least one monitoring module ~~(10)~~ that is associated with the microcontroller unit ~~(300)~~ and to which the fact that a reset of the microcontroller unit ~~(300)~~ has taken place can be acknowledged by ~~means of~~ at least one confirming signal wherein the confirming signal is formed by at least one trigger signal or trigger code that differs from the normal operation of the microcontroller unit or is permitted only once by the monitoring module, or both.

5. (Currently Amended) A base chip as claimed in claim 4, ~~characterized by~~ wherein at least one information unit ~~(20) that~~ is provided to allow for different reset events, and at least one supply unit ~~(50) that~~ is connected ~~(52)~~ to the microcontroller unit ~~(300)~~.

6. (Currently Amended) A base chip as claimed in claim 4 ~~or 5~~, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the monitoring module is adapted to be ~~(10) can be~~ triggered by ~~means of~~ at least one interface unit ~~(30) and/or in that~~ or, to distinguish between ~~the~~ individual accesses to the monitoring module ~~(10)~~, different reset events can be marked by different trigger values, or both.

7. (Currently Amended) A base chip as claimed in ~~any of claims~~ claim 4 to 6, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ the base chip ~~(200)~~ is adapted to enter ~~goes to~~ a fail-safe mode if the resetting of the microcontroller unit ~~(300)~~ is not acknowledged once by ~~means of~~ the confirming signal, ~~and/~~or if the base chip ~~(200)~~ receives the confirming signal without a reset having taken place previously, there being, in the fail-safe mode, ~~in particular~~ a current consumption that is lower than in normal operation.

8. (Currently Amended) A base chip as claimed in ~~any of claims~~ claim 4 to 7, wherein ~~characterized in that~~ at least one signal line ~~there~~ is provided between the

monitoring module (10) and the microcontroller unit (300) at least one signal line (32), the signal line operative to transmit for transmitting the confirming signal, the confirming signal including and in particular thea trigger signal or a trigger code that differs from the a normal operation of the microcontroller unit (300).

9. (Currently Amended) A control system (100), and particularly a control system, characterized bycomprising at least one microcontroller unit (300) intended for at least one application and by at least one base chip (200) as claimed in any of claims 4 to 8claim 4.

10. (Cancelled).